either in Hindi or in English ? . . *(Interruptions) ...*

SHRI PASUMPON THA. K1RUTTINAN : Why not in Tamil, Sir ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : You can ask, but I am asking you for the benefit of the House . . . *(Interruptions)..*

SHRI S. MUTHU MANI : Why can't it be in Tamil, Sir ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Because there is no translation.

. . . (Interruptions). ..

SHRI S. MUTHU MANI : Must be provided, must be provided ! . . . *(Interruptions) . . .*

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN : Sir, why can't there be translation for Tamil ? You can have translation for questions also—why not ?. .. *(Interruptions).* .. Some of our Members cannot speak either in English or in Hindi. So, some arrangements can be made for putting questions in Tamil. Some of our Members are not able to, express themselves in English *or* in Hindi. Then should they be prevented from asking questions in Tamil ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : I understand it and I sympathize with you, but you have to follow the normal rules.

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN : There should be an opportunity to ask questions in all the official languages. Question Hour is a very important hour.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

DeveJoment of Paradip Port

*202. SHRI PRAVAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Asian Development Bank (A.D.B.) has agreed to finance the Ministry's proposal for providing assistance for the development of Paradip Port; and

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(b) if so, what are the details of follow-up action taken so far, to execute the development proposals at Paradip Port with the said assistance ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Asian Development Bank has approved a loan of $ 285 million for the Paradip-Ennore Coal Transportation project which include* $ 134.85 million for creation of mechanised coal handling facilities at Paradip.

(b) The proposal is at advanced stage of consideration and a decision is expected very soon.

Commission on Sustainable Development Following Earth Summit

*203. SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a Commission on Sustainable Development has been set up as a follow-up of the Earth Summit held last June;

(b) if so, what are its terms of reference; and

(c) what is the programme of action of Government of India ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) In pursuance of paragraph 38.11 of Agenda-21, and UNGA resolution 47/ 191, a high level Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) was established as a functional Commission of the Economic and Social Council, in accordance with Article 68 of the UN Charter. The CSD will monitor progress and effective follow-up of the Rio conference, enhanced international cooperation on environment and development issues and examine the implementation of Agenda-21 at the naional, regional and international level.

(c) The national conservation strategy and policy statement on Environment and Development has been enunciated in June 1992. Agenda-21 has been included in the programme of action of concerned Ministries. The Government will work actively